UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A GLOBAL PROJECT
(GLO/90/016) - Genetic Improvement of
Farmed Tilapia

Date of approval by the AC: 1/	29 January 1992
Expected duration:	Five years
Proposed executing agency:	UNDP/OPS
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$4 822 700
Source of funds:	IPF

Project background

The problem of protein malnutrition among disadvantaged populations of the developing world is increasing, especially due to increased scarcity and high cost of animal protein sources. Fish already provides the primary source of animal protein for over one billion in many developing countries and contributes substantially to national economies. Increased production of fish through aquaculture will be one of the major sources of protein to supply the ever increasing world population.

Tropical aquaculture species, such as carps and tilapias, which form the mainstay of small-scale enterprises for many resource-poor farmers in the developing world, possess the ability to convert natural feed sources into high quality protein. For tilapias, conservative estimates of the levels of genetic gains that can be readily achieved through selection are in the order of 8-16 percent per year, much greater than have been possible in terrestrial; agriculture.

The International Centre for Living Aquatic Resources Management (ICLARM) has given a high priority to achieving increased food production and income by and for low-income small-scale producers. The first priority in this research theme is tilapia, which forms the mainstay of small-scale aquaculture for many resource-poor farmers. The research thrust is to develop methodologies and policy guidelines that will be applied to a wide range of finfish species in national breeding programs, notably carps and other indigenous species.

Description of project

The project will focus on four key areas: (a) the selection and dissemination of improved breeds; (b) the investigation of genetic traits leading to efficient breeding and selection programmes; (c) the documentation and collection of promising strains and (d) strengthening the capacity of national institutions to carry out selection work and develop breeding programmes.

1/ This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.

Inputs

UNDP contribution will; be used for supporting ICLARM, three collaborating organizations and outreach to other organizations.

Financial data

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Personnel	1 982 700
Research costs	904 600
Equipment	508 400
Training	867 000
Collaborative studies	210 000
Direct costs	350 000
Total	4 822 700

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